

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
May 7, 2019

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Present were managers Casey Ingenthron, Rolf Mahlberg and Jay Milbrandt. Also present were: Bob Demuth, county commissioner; Logan Ahlers, advisory committee member; Brad Harberts, county ditch inspector; Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter; Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor; John Shea, SWCD manager; and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The minutes of the April board meetings were reviewed. Ingenthron moved to approve the regular board meeting minutes. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried. Ingenthron moved to approve April 25, 2019 special meeting minutes. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. Ingenthron moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

No public comments were received during the boundary change petition comment period. The Board of Water and Soil Resources will likely approve the boundary change at a summer board meeting.

Mahlberg and Livdahl met with Galen Gordon about the filter strip incentive payments for his property that will be transferred to the Kanaranzi-Little Rock Watershed District. Galen will talk to the KLRWD board about getting incentives payments in the future from them.

The DNR has not issued the permit for the Ocheda Dam structure modification project. Mahlberg will sign the contract with Land Pride Construction when the permit is approved.

Tom Langer and crew are surgically implanting fifteen radio telemetry trackers in Lake Okabena carp today. Livdahl will be trained to use the tracking equipment tomorrow. Carp will be located weekly during the spawning season and monthly after that.

The Prairie View spillway was discussed. Flexamat representatives have not responded to the project engineer. It is likely that the district will pay to replace the spillway Flexamat with riprap.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Tom Lager will do a presentation on carp population management at the Olson Trust board meeting tomorrow morning. The board will consider paying a portion of the Lake Okabena carp management program costs.

The public hearings for the Missouri River One Watershed, One Plan document were held in Edgerton and Worthington on April 30th. The project partners must each take action to approve sending the plan to BWSR for review.

Les Johnson and Scott Rall will burn prairie at three locations in Bella Park as soon as weather conditions permit. They will bill the district for the service. Livdahl will help as needed.

Livdahl will take two or three days of vacation between May 16th and 21st.

NEW BUSINESS

Mahlberg was contacted by the president of the Southwest Minnesota Fishing Club about harvesting gamefish from Lake Ocheda before the planned lake level drawdown. Ryan Doorebus was contacted about the possibility of liberalized fishing there. Ryan will check about whether this will be permitted by the DNR.

Geese picked all the vegetation from a number of floating island wetlands at Olson Park. Plants will be ordered to revegetate them. Livdahl will look for volunteers to help haul the islands to shore to replant and install new goose fences on them.

Ingenthron moved to authorize submitting the One Watershed, One Plan document to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for review and approval. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

PERMITS

Ingenthron moved to approve the following permit applications:

City of Worthington – to implement the project stormwater pollution prevention plan during demolition of the Beach Nook building and construction of a new bathhouse at Olson Park.

Kwik Trip, Inc. – to implement the project stormwater pollution prevention plan during construction of a new store at 1601 Oxford Street, Worthington.

Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on June 4, 2019 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road.

Ingenthron moved to adjourn the meeting. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Meeting adjourned